

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00

AEC-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04

NSAE-00 NSC-07 OIC-04 SPC-03 PA-04 PRS-01 RSC-01

SCI-06 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 /206 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047428

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT; NPT PREPCOM CHAIRMAN -- CANADIAN CANDIDACY

REF: STATE 42078

1. UK AND CANADA HAVE CONFIRMED THAT CANADIAN CCD REP AMBASSADOR WILLIAM BARTON IS AVAILABLE FOR CHAIRMANSHIP OF NPT PREPCOM, PROVIDED HE IS ACCEPTABLE TO OTHER PREPCOM MEMBERS. WE UNDERSTAND BRITISH HAVE BEGUN SOUNDINGS IN NY AND GENEVA AND ALSO PLAN TO APPROACH SOVIETS IN NY AND MOSCOW.
2. ADDRESSEES AT THEIR DISCRETION MAY INFORM OTHERS THAT WE SUPPORT UK PROPOSAL OF BARTON AS CHAIRMAN, DRAWING ON TALKING POINTS IN PARAS 3 AND 4 BELOW.
3. DESIGNATION OF CANADIAN AS PREPCOM CHAIRMAN IS FITTING IN VIEW OF CANADA'S IMPORTANT ROLE IN NPT NEGOTIATIONS AND IN OPERATION OF TREATY. CANADA, A MAJOR NEAR-NUCLEAR STATE, RENOUNCED NUCLEAR WEAPON OPTION THAT WAS CLEARLY WITHIN CANADIAN CAPABILITIES THUS PROMOTING NON-PROLIFERATION. MORE GENERALLY, CANADA HAS HAD MAJOR PART IN MULTILATERAL NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT DISCUSSIONS SINCE SUBJECT FIRST RAISED IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.
4. BARTON IS HIGHLY QUALIFIED. HE CHAIRED INFORMAL MEETING OF NPT PARTIES AT 1973 UNGA, AT REQUEST OF DEPOSITARIES AND OF THREE NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS OF PREPCOM (MEXICO, SWEDEN, AND YUGOSLAVIA), AND HE HAS HAD EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN DISARMAMENT MATTERS. FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS HE HAS REPRESENTED CANADA AT CCD AND IN DISARMAMENT DEBATES AT UNGA.

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5. SOME OF OFFICIALS APPROACHED MAY INQUIRE WHETHER INTENTION IS FOR BARTON TO CHAIR ALL SESSIONS OF PREPCOM OR ONLY FIRST SESSION, AND MAY SUGGEST THAT DIFFERENT CHAIRMAN BE DESIGNATED FOR EACH OF THE SEVERAL SESSIONS NOW PLANNED. POSSIBILITY COULD ALSO BE SUGGESTED OF ROTATING THE CHAIRMANSHIP FROM DAY TO DAY AMONG ALL DELEGATIONS. ADDRESSEES SHOULD REPLY THAT, WHILE WE

WOULD NATURALLY CONSIDER ANY SUGGESTIONS, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE SINGLE CHAIRMAN IN INTEREST OF CONTINUITY AND OF MAKING BEST POSSIBLE PREPARATIONS FOR CONFERENCE. WE THINK PREPCOM MEMBERS SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO AGREE ON SINGLE CHAIRMAN TO DO WHOLE JOB AND BELIEVE BARTON FULLY MEETS CRITERIA.

6. FOR USUN AND MOSCOW. WE PLAN TO DISCUSS BARTON CANDIDACY WITH SOVIET EMBASSY (PROBABLY VORONTSOV) AS SOON AS BRITISH CONFIRM THAT THEY HAVE APPROACHED SOVIETS. USUN SHOULD ALSO CONFIRM SUPPORT FOR BARTON TO SOVIET UN MISSION. ALTHOUGH WE THINK IT MIGHT ALSO BE USEFUL FOR EMBASSY MOSCOW TO MENTION MATTER TO FOREIGN MINISTRY, WE LEAVE THIS FOR EMBASSY TO DECIDE. IN DISCUSSING MATTER WITH SOVIET EMBASSY HERE, WE PLAN TO MAKE ADDITIONAL POINT THAT CHAIRMANSHIP FOR CANADA (WHICH ENJOYS CONSIDERABLE GOODWILL AMONG NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS OF PREPCOM) COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON OTHER NATO AND PRO-WESTERN COUNTRIES INCLUDING THOSE THAT HAVE NOT YET RATIFIED NPT (E.G. NETHERLANDS, FRG, BELGIUM, ETC.). USUN AND MOSCOW MAY WISH TO MAKE SAME POINT IF CONTEXT OF DISCUSSION WITH SOVIETS MAKES THIS APPROPRIATE. KISSINGER

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